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courage is contagious

Viewing cable 06MANAGUA643, INDIGENOUS REGIONAL PARTY CONTESTS ELECTION

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cables unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#06MANAGUA643**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
06MANAGUA643	2006-03-22 20:42	2011-08-30 01:44	CONFIDENTIAL	Embassy Managua

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758456.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758467.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-30/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2758468.aspx>
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<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3966/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-ee-uu-en-el-2006>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2758764.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-23/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2758753.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4041/millones-de-dolares-sin-control-y-a-discrecion>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4040/la-ldquo-injerencia-rdquo-de-venezuela-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/4047/rodrigo-barreto-enviado-de-ldquo-vacaciones-rdquo>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotasSecundarias/Mundo2757239.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/NotaPrincipal/Mundo2746658.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2757244.aspx>
<http://www.nacion.com/2011-05-16/Mundo/Relacionados/Mundo2746673.aspx>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3991/dra-yadira-centeno-desmiente-cable-diplomatico-eeuu>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3968/pellas-pronostico-a-eeuu-victoria-de-ortega-en-2006>
<http://www.confidencial.com.ni/articulo/3967/barreto-era-ldquo-fuente-confiable-rdquo-para-eeuu>

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PP RUEHWEB

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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5670
INFO RUEHZA/WHA CENTRAL AMERICAN COLLECTIVE
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0592
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 000643

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR WHA/CEN

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/22/2016
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#)
SUBJECT: INDIGENOUS REGIONAL PARTY CONTESTS ELECTION
RESULTS AND WINS

Classified By: AMBASSADOR PAUL TRIVELLI. REASONS 1.4 (B,D)

¶1. (SBU) The Supreme Electoral Council (CSE) decided in favor of indigenous regional party Yatama on March 18, ruling that the party won 13 seats in Nicaragua's Northern Autonomous Region (RAAN) election instead of the previously reported 12. Yatama leaders contested the election results in the

RAAN based on a 2002 agreement signed by all political parties that transferred three JRVs from district 4 -- a predominantly Miskito area -- to district 14, predominantly Mestizo. The CSE originally printed ballots reflecting this agreement. However, after the Liberal Constitutional Party (PLC) contested them, the CSE reversed the decision and printed ballots returning them to the original polling station (JRV) divisions. With this change, the Sandinistas (FSLN) took a seat at the expense of Yatama in the March 5 election.

¶2. (U) Rejecting this outcome, Yatama leaders staged protests throughout Bilwi. A group of Yatama protesters in

the RAAN occupied the regional electoral council (CER) building in Bilwi on March 14 and held the CER president hostage. Demonstrations also closed the airport, and Yatama members threatened to block the entrance to the city. Yatama leader and Bilwi mayor Elizabeth Henriquez informed the press that Yatama would not form a government with either the FSLN or the PLC until the matter was resolved satisfactorily.

¶3. (C) An International Foundation for Elections (IFES) source related to poloff that the CSE had called a breakfast meeting on March 16 with IFES, Organization of American States (OAS) and the Center for Human Rights on the Atlantic Coast (CEDECA) to address the issue. The CSE members outlined the situation and reported that they were able to work with the bishop in Bilwi to provide water to the captive CER representative. According to the IFES representative, the CSE could not make any official pronouncements until midnight March 17 - the deadline for disputing election results. However, the FSLN had apparently agreed not to fight Yatama's claim to the seat. The CSE relayed information through the bishop that the situation would be resolved in Yatama's favor and announced it publicly on March 20, in order to encourage Yatama to release the CER representative and refrain from more protests.

¶4. (SBU) The CSE announced on March 18 that the seat had been given to Yatama, but the seat was won at the expense of the PLC, instead of the FSLN. New regional totals are as

follows: RAAN -- PLC 16, FSLN 16, Yatama 13, RAAS - PLC 22, FSLN 11, ALN-PC 6, Yatama 6. The Yatama leadership called off the demonstrations the afternoon of March 18. When businesses threatened to raise prices to recoup expenses from shipping products by land instead of by air when the airport was closed, Mayor Henriquez issued a statement threatening to fine any businesses that increased their prices due to the strike.

15. (C) Comment: The calculations behind the CSE decision are complicated. According to IFES, the Yatama seat would be taken from the FSLN, who had agreed not to fight Yatama's claim to the seat. The original plan was to tally the votes with the three contested JRVs included in the voting center per the agreement in 2002. This would have resulted in Yatama gaining the seat at the expense of the FSLN. However, when the CSE decided to combine all the votes of the two affected voting centers and calculate the results based on the accumulated vote, Yatama won the additional seat at the expense of the PLC. The PLC is contesting this decision and two other seats in the RAAN. End Comment.

TRIVELLI